



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/900,458	07/09/2001	Jeffrey Nichols	007230.00003	4242
22907	7590	10/31/2007	EXAMINER	
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD. 1100 13th STREET, N.W. SUITE 1200 WASHINGTON, DC 20005-4051			WALSH, JOHN B	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2151		
		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
		10/31/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	09/900,458	NICHOLS ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b> John B. Walsh	<b>Art Unit</b> 2151

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 August 2007.

2a)  This action is **FINAL**.                    2b)  This action is non-final.

3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## **Disposition of Claims**

4)  Claim(s) 67-70,72-83 and 85-90 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) 68,69,72,73,76,78,81 and 88 is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6)  Claim(s) 67,70,74,75,77,79,80,82,83,85-87,89 and 90 is/are rejected.  
7)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a)  accepted or b)  objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a)  All    b)  Some \* c)  None of:  
1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
2)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_ .  
3)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_ . 5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application  
6)  Other: \_\_\_\_ .

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Election/Restrictions***

1. Newly submitted claims 78 and 88 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: Claims 78 and 88 are drawn to an advertisement/business method (class 705). Because these inventions are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and there would be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is not required because the inventions have acquired a separate status in the art in view of their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 78 and 88 withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 67, 70, 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85-87, 89 and 90 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,233,992 to Muldoon et al.

As concerns claim 67, a portal for a private network exchange having multiple service providers, comprising an authentication resource configured to: receive a request to log into the private network (column 3, line 63; column 2, line 43) exchange through a secure gateway (column 4, lines 8-10; column 6, lines 19-28); access a profile (column 4, lines 63-64) of a user associated with the request; authenticate the user (column 4, lines 8-10; column 6, lines 19-28) associated with the request to a plurality of applications associated with the private network exchange; receive a selected application (column 2, line 56) of the plurality of applications; and send data representing an authorization of the user to access the plurality of applications to the selected application (column 4, lines 8-10; column 6, lines 19-28); wherein the portal is not visible to the Internet (column 4, line 1; column 1, lines 37-47).

As concerns claims 70 and 83, wherein the profile includes service authorizations representative of services to which the user is authorized to access and groups to which the user belongs (column 4, lines 63-64).

As concerns claims 74 and 85, wherein the portal is accessible through a web-browser (column 2, line 42).

As concerns claims 75 and 86, wherein the portal comprises a set of web pages (column 2, line 42).

As concerns claims 77 and 87, wherein the portal is configured to retrieve information from a public Internet site and to display the retrieved information (column 2, lines 43-49).

As concerns claims 79 and 89, the authentication resource is further configured to generate the data (column 6, lines 19-28).

As concerns claims 80 and 90, the data is a user object (column 6, lines 12-37).

As concerns claim 82, a portal for a private network exchange having multiple service providers, a method for representing an authorization to access a plurality of applications comprising: receiving a request to log into the private network (column 3, line 63; column 2, line 43) exchange through a secure gateway (column 4, lines 8-10; column 6, lines 19-28); accessing a profile (column 4, lines 63-64) of a user associated with the request; authenticating (column 4, lines 8-10; column 6, lines 19-28) the user associated with the request to a plurality of applications associated with the private network exchange; receiving a selected application (column 4, lines 8-10; column 6, lines 19-28) of the selected applications; and sending data representing an authorization of the user to access the plurality of applications to the selected application (column 4, lines 8-10; column 6, lines 19-28); wherein the portal is not visible to the Internet (column 4, line 1; column 1, lines 37-47).

*Response to Arguments*

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

*Conclusion*

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

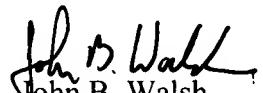
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John B. Walsh whose telephone number is 571-272-7063. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on 571-272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
John B. Walsh  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2151